What is claimed is:

- 1. A method of reducing a channel length in a transistor, comprising: forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate; coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth; forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides; and oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced.
- 2. The method of claim 1, wherein coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.
- 3. The method of claim 2, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 4. The method of claim 2, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 5. The method of claim 1, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.
- 6. The method of claim 1, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.

- 7. A method of forming a transistor, comprising: forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in a
 - forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate;

semiconductor substrate;

- coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;
- forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides; and oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced.
- 8. The method of claim 7, wherein coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.
- 9. The method of claim 8, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 10. The method of claim 8, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 11. The method of claim 7, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.
- 12. The method of claim 7, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.

- 13. The method of claim 7, further including forming a first source/drain extension adjacent the first source/drain region and a second source/drain extension adjacent the second source/drain region.
- 14. A method of forming a transistor, comprising: forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in a semiconductor substrate; forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate; coupling a nitride layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the nitride layer prevents oxide undergrowth; forming a gate on top of the nitride layer, the gate having sides,
 - forming a gate on top of the nitride layer, the gate having sides,
 and an effective channel length defined by the sides; and
 oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to
 an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced.
- 15. The method of claim 14, wherein coupling a nitride layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.
- 16. The method of claim 15, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 17. The method of claim 15, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 18. The method of claim 14, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.

- 19. The method of claim 14, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.
- 20. The method of claim 14, further including forming a first source/drain extension adjacent the first source/drain region and a second source/drain extension adjacent the second source/drain region.
- 21. A method of forming an integrated circuit, comprising:

 forming a number of transistors on a semiconductor substrate, wherein
 forming at least one of the number of transistors comprises:

forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in the semiconductor substrate;

forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate; coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides; oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced; and

electrically connecting the number of transistors.

- 22. The method of claim 21, wherein coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.
- 23. The method of claim 22, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.

- 24. The method of claim 22, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 25. The method of claim 21, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.
- 26. The method of claim 21, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.
- 27. A method of forming an integrated circuit, comprising:

 forming a number of transistors on a semiconductor substrate, wherein
 forming at least one of the number of transistors comprises:

forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in the semiconductor substrate;

forming a first source/drain extension adjacent the first source/drain region and a second source/drain extension adjacent the second source/drain region;

forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate; coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides; oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced; and

electrically connecting the number of transistors.

28. A method of forming an integrated circuit, comprising:

forming a number of transistors on a semiconductor substrate, wherein
forming at least one of the number of transistors comprises:

forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in the semiconductor substrate;

forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate; coupling a nitride layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the nitride layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the nitride layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides; oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced; and

electrically connecting the number of transistors.

- 29. The method of claim 28, wherein coupling a nitride layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.
- 30. The method of claim 29, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 31. The method of claim 29, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 32. The method of claim 28, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.

- 33. The method of claim 28, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.
- 34. The method of claim 28, further including forming a first source/drain extension adjacent the first source/drain region and a second source/drain extension adjacent the second source/drain region.
- 35. A method of forming a memory device, comprising:
 - forming a number of transistors on a semiconductor substrate, comprising:

 forming a first source/drain region and a second source drain region

 in the semiconductor substrate;

forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate; coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides; oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced;

forming a number of wordlines coupled to the gates of the number of transistors; and

forming a number of wordlines coupled to the first source/drain region of the number of transistors.

36. The method of claim 35, wherein coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.

- 37. The method of claim 36, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 38. The method of claim 36, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 39. The method of claim 35, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.
- 40. The method of claim 35, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.
- 41. A method of forming a memory device, comprising:

 forming a number of transistors on a semiconductor substrate, comprising:

 forming a first source/drain region and a second source drain region

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in the semiconductor substrate;

forming a first source/drain extension adjacent the first source/drain region and a second source/drain extension adjacent the second source/drain region;

forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate; coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides;

oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced;

forming a number of wordlines coupled to the gates of the number of transistors; and

forming a number of wordlines coupled to the first source/drain region of the number of transistors.

42. A method of making an information handling system, comprising: providing a processor chip;

forming a semiconductor memory device, comprising:

forming a number of transistors on a semiconductor substrate, comprising:

forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in the semiconductor substrate;

forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate;

coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides, and an effective channel length defined by the sides;

oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced;

forming a number of wordlines coupled to the gates of the number of transistors;

forming a number of wordlines coupled to the first source/drain region of the number of transistors; and

coupling the processor chip to the semiconductor memory device with a system bus.

- 43. The method of claim 42, wherein coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer.
- 44. The method of claim 43, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises remote plasma nitride processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 45. The method of claim 43, wherein coupling a silicon nitride (SiN) layer to the gate dielectric layer comprises composite oxidation processing the gate dielectric layer to form a silicon nitride (SiN) layer.
- 46. The method of claim 42, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate oxide layer on a semiconductor substrate.
- 47. The method of claim 42, wherein forming a gate dielectric layer on a semiconductor substrate comprises forming a gate dielectric layer on a silicon substrate.
- 48. The method of claim 42, further including forming a first source/drain extension adjacent the first source/drain region and a second source/drain extension adjacent the second source/drain region.
- 49. A transistor comprising:
- a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region disposed in a substrate;

a channel region between the first source/drain region and the second source/drain region;

a gate dielectric layer coupled to the channel region;

a barrier layer coupled to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

a gate formed from a gate material coupled to the barrier layer; and a side dielectric region converted from a portion of the gate material, the side dielectric region having a thickness at a top of the gate that is substantially the same as a thickness at a bottom of the gate.

- 50. The transistor of claim 49, wherein the barrier layer comprises a nitrided layer.
- 51. The transistor of claim 50, wherein the nitrided layer comprises silicon nitride.
- 52. The transistor of claim 50, wherein the side dielectric region comprises silicon dioxide.
- 53. The transistor of claim 50, further comprising a source/drain extension operatively connected to the first source/drain region extending into the channel region.
- 54. A transistor formed by the following process:

 forming a first source/drain region and a second source/drain region in a semiconductor substrate;

 forming a gate dielectric layer on the semiconductor substrate;
 - coupling a barrier layer to the gate dielectric layer, wherein the barrier layer prevents oxide undergrowth;

forming a gate on top of the barrier layer, the gate having sides,
and an effective channel length defined by the sides; and
oxidizing the gate wherein a portion of the sides of the gate are converted to
an oxide and an effective channel length of the gate is reduced.